

# New Report Cards 'Delight' Parents

## Return to 'Letter Grading' Lauded by Students' Parents

Report cards, issued to young students in the Torrance Unified School District last week, aroused a storm of mixed feelings from parents who had never before had a "letter grade" with which to judge the youngster's progress.

Initiation of the new grading system, promised by successful candidates during the recent school board election, indicates, for the first time, the youngster's progress compared to the rest of his class.

In the previous grading system, which eliminated letter grades in favor of a sometimes involved written report on the child's capacities, parents found themselves with little or no understanding of whether or not the student was holding his own with the rest of his class.

Parents queried about this return to the old A, B, C, D, and F grading system, coupled with a second grade in each subject showing the effort the student puts into it, indicated that they were delighted with the changeover.

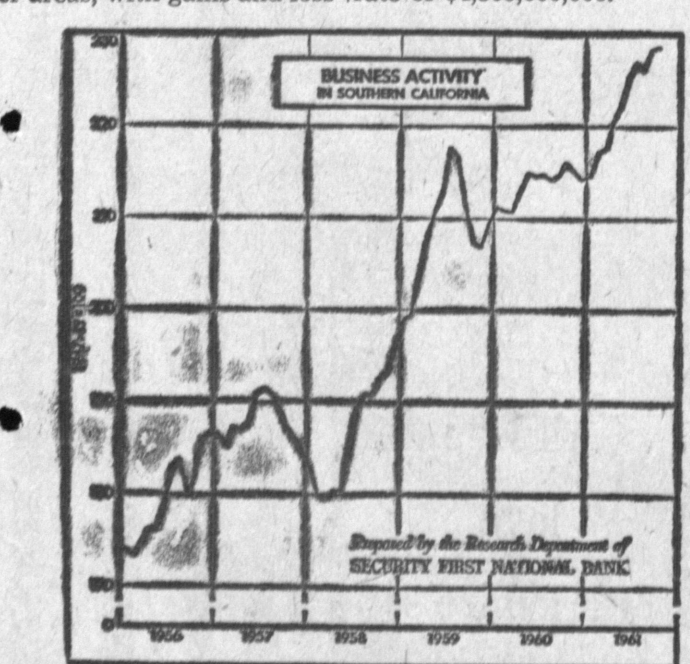
One thing is certain, the student, the teacher and the school will be much better off with a system that allows the child to compete with classmates for academic standing rather than a subjective judgement of whether or not he is successfully "competing with himself."

## Employment Increase Noted In Torrance Bank's Survey

Record employment levels and a continued decrease in unemployment highlighted Southern California's business activity during the month of October, J. J. Weigel, manager of Security First National Bank's Torrance branch, reported today.

Security's index of business activity for October stood at 228.8 (primarily, to register a slight increase over the previous month's all time high of 228.5 October's reading was 5.9 percent over the same period of a year ago.

The employment picture remained virtually unchanged from September to October, Weigel said. Employment highs in the Los Angeles-Long Beach and San Bernardino - Riverside areas were balanced by employment reductions in other areas, with gains and losses generally matching seasonal expectations.



## Auto Wreckers' Licenses Due By Tomorrow

Business license renewals for 10,000 California auto dealers and wrecking firms are due on or before Thursday, November 30, Tom M. Bright, Director of Motor Vehicles, said this week.

Application forms were mailed to the group from Department of Motor Vehicles late in October, Bright said, and several hundred vehicle manufacturers and transporters were also circularized. A registration fee statement for each vehicle used in these businesses was sent out early in November.

"The license renewal period for individuals and firms extends through the entire month of November," the director stated.

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## PRESS EDITORIAL PAGE

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ANNOUNCE DYSTROPHY DRIVE — County Campaign Chairman Vin Scully and County Poster Child, 6-year-old Kimber Lee Gageby, display Jerry Lewis marcher tag to be used by 35,000 volunteers during March for Muscular Dystrophy, held December 1 through Sunday, December 3, 1961 drive for funds to aid nearly a quarter million victims of MD, starts December 1, continuing through the month of December.

## Muscular Dystrophy Drive For Area Slated Dec. 1-3

35,000 volunteers will march for dystrophy on Dec. 1, 2 and 3 in L.A. County to aid those afflicted with muscular dystrophy. The March for Muscular Dystrophy will open the December drive for funds held by Muscular Dystrophy Association of America, Inc., L.A. County Chapter. Countywide goal is \$370,000.

Vin Scully, county campaign chairman, said today that volunteer marchers will conduct the residential appeal in cities and communities throughout the county asking contributions to aid the fight against MD. Each volunteer will wear a Jerry Lewis marcher badge for identification.

Announcing the opening of the dystrophy drive, Scully said: "Untold suffering, heartbreak, the cruel and untimely loss of thousands of budding lives—this is the heavy price extracted by muscular dystrophy. Nothing yet known to science can arrest the relentless and devastating course of this disease. With thousands of children afflicted in whom the disease is usually fatal, we must support vital research to speedily find a cure and treatment for this tragic disease."

"President Kennedy in his public endorsement of

## Letters

Dear Sir: Would you kindly publicize what I believe is a worth-while appeal.

I am an appraiser employed by Marina Federal Savings and Loan Association. Recently, while appraising a rest home for elderly citizens I discovered a need for hard-bound books, paper - backs, and games which include playing cards, checkers, and dominoes. And I decided to do something about the situation.

I appealed to our Marina employees and the response was indeed gratifying. At this point I have already distributed over 300 books to three rest homes.

A nurse mentioned she would love to see a bible in each room. I wrote to the American Bible Society. They forwarded to me a "Library of Holy Scriptures" which was provided through a gift of \$10 for this purpose. Last week I placed it in one of the homes.

There are 20 rest and convalescent homes in this area and I would like to provide each one with bibles, books, and games.

Donors can bring books or games to any Marina Federal Savings branch office or I shall be pleased to pick them up at the home.

May I ask for your help in interesting as many people as you can in this worthwhile effort.

Gratefully yours, Walter J. Welch

## BUILDING COSTS

High school buildings cost about \$16 per square foot to construct today. It is somewhat more in the Northeast and less in the South.

voluntary service. "I urge all of you to give generously to the Jerry Lewis volunteer that calls at your door," Scully concluded.

## Treasurer Notes Bond Requirement Have Been Met

Bert A. Betts, state treasurer of California announced this week that the bonding requirements for the calendar year of 1961 had been met and that there would be no more sales of State of California general obligation bonds for the remainder of this year.

Treasurer Betts in making the announcement said, "financial history was made this year by the return of competitive bidding in the sale of California bonds. It will save the taxpayers many millions of dollars in interest costs for the life of the bonds sold in 1961. This advantage was brought about by our orderly-flexible bond selling program."

California bonds sold the calendar year of 1961 by Treasurer Betts were: Veterans Farm and Home Loan, \$240 million; State School Building Aid, \$195 million; State Construction Program, \$150 million and Small Craft Harbor, \$3 million.

Treasurer Betts in summing up the bonding picture added, "The fiscal responsibility as shown by our three consecutive years of balanced budgets, along with the flexible bond program and the return of competition to the bond market for California are the reasons for the excellent interest costs in recent sales. The foundation for California's future financing to support

its tremendous growth is assured because of this fiscal responsibility."

The State of California sells more tax-free municipal bonds than any other state in the nation, making it incumbent upon the State Treasurer to sell these bonds at the lowest interest rate possible. To that end, a policy of flexibility was inaugurated two years ago under which the sales are held at times, and in amounts, to meet the best national bond market conditions.

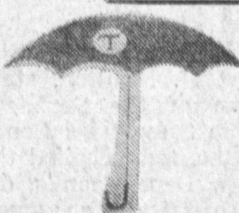
Previously, \$100 million worth of California bonds had been sold every ninety days on a rigid, inflexible schedule.

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